VISIT…

LANZAROTE Caliente.COM

SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER
By Philip J. Klass
404 "N" St. SW. Washington DC 20024

SUN #70
Winter 2001-02
Copyright 2002

Greer Claims Release of UFO Secrets, Including "Anti-Gravity Propulsion," Could Have Prevented Sept. 11 Terrorist Tragedy

Dr. Steven M. Greer, whose Project Disclosure has the stated objective of getting Congress to hold open hearings to reveal "the truth" about UFOs that the U.S. government allegedly has kept under cover for more than 50 years [SUN #68/Summer 2001], has issued statements which try to exploit the Sept. 11 terrorist tragedies. Prior to his Oct. 26 Project Disclosure conference in New York City, his Internet web-site carried the message: *"We need your help to DISCLOSE THE SECRETS that could have PREVENTED THE SEPT. 11 TRAGEDY."* Greer was to be the featured speaker at the conference.

On Oct. 10, Greer issued a press release which claimed that he had "over 400 military witnesses" who were willing to testify before Congress. *"These are highly credible military and government witnesses to programs that, if properly disclosed, would enable America and the world to reach energy independence, without fossil fuels. Many of these witnesses have dealt directly with advanced energy and propulsion technologies that have been illegally sequestered from the public and from the legitimate government and which could have made Mid-East oil obsolete decades ago. In addition, advanced reconnaissance and electronics breakthroughs have been compartmented* (sic) *into these so-called 'black projects' and have therefore not been allowed to be used by mainstream military and intelligence operations to intercept terrorists. These shadowy and illegal projects have 'hijacked' our ability to defend ourselves in addition to artificially keeping us dependent on imported Mid-East oil.* (Emphasis added.)

"Many of these highly placed government and military witnesses (Greer claims) *have been directly involved with events or programs involved with what the public and the media mistakenly call UFOs, or unidentified flying objects. Programs that are beyond Presidential or Congressional oversight have been studying this matter for over 50 years and have full knowledge of what these objects are, where they come from, and most importantly, how they operate. These objects have been fully studied and* (Greer claims) *reverse-engineered–meaning these clandestine military-industrial programs have made major scientific breakthroughs in energy generation and propulsion that would make nuclear power and oil obsolete. Unfortunately,* (Greer claims) *the withholding of this informtion from the Congress, many Presidents and the public has led to the current world crisis involving oil, energy, the environment and terrorism.* (Emphasis added.)

SUN has not been able to find a news media report on Greer's Oct. 26 conference. (His web-site has not been updated since Oct. 5.) But George A. Filer, who produces a bi-weekly "Filer's Files" report on the Internet, claims that Greer's subsequent Project Disclosure conference on Oct. 28 at the University of Toronto's convocation hall was a "huge success" that attracted "around 700 people." Filer himself was one of the two featured speakers in Toronto in addition to Greer. Filer, a retired USAF officer, claims he was directly involved in an incident in which an extraterrestrial was shot dead in early 1978 at McGuire AFB, N.J. [SUN #68/Summer 2001]. Filer is one of Greer's strongest supporters and claims *"the Disclosure Project reveals the best UFO evidence anywhere. All those giving information have worked for the government in responsible positions and have an in-depth knowledge of the subject. Each report reveals a piece of the UFO puzzle. Essentially, they report we are being visited by alien life forms that have bases on our Moon and Mars....They apparently forage for food, conduct mining operations, and make contact with some of us."* (Emphasis added.)

Another of Greer's star witnesses–Clifford E. Stone–claims he was a member of an Army team that recovered crashed UFOs and their ET occupants. In reality, Stone's military records show he was trained as and served as a "clerk/typist"–as revealed in SUN #68.

New Challenge To Wood's Cape Girardeau "Crashed UFO" Claim

Information recently obtained by SUN challenges the claim being promoted by Ryan Wood that a crashed saucer and three ET bodies were recovered near Cape Girardeau, MO, in the spring of 1941. The paper presented by Ryan Wood at last summer's national MUFON conference was titled "THE FIRST ROSWELL: Evidence For A Crash Retrieval In Cape Girardeau in 1941." Wood's concluding comments were: *"After working on this case for about two years and talking with Charlette (sic) Mann on numerous occasions...her story, demeanor, and integrity provided no hints of deception or confabulation..."* [SUN #69/Fall 2001]. Ms. Mann is the primary source for the crashed-saucer tale. She claims her grandfather, Rev. William Huffman–a Baptist minister–was invited to the crash site one night in the spring of 1941 by the local police to administer last rites to the ET passengers. In Wood's MUFON paper he admitted that he had been unable to find confirmation for Mann's tale in the police or fire departments' records. But he offered a possible explanation: *"If they were sworn to secrecy by the military, would they write the event down in their logbook or would they record it accurately?"*

James Westwood, a former Navy officer who now heads his own company–Military Science and Defense Analytics (MSDA)–spent a week in Cape Girardeau during 1998/99 investigating the alleged incident for an unnamed client and recently shared some of his findings with SUN. Prior to Westwood's first visit, the local newspaper (Southeast Missourian) carried a major feature story headlined *"Local UFO Probe: Researcher seeks answers to report of a crash in 1941,"* which provided Westwood's phone number. Nobody called Westwood. During his visit, he interviewed Dr. Harley Rutledge–a local retired physics professor who investigated many UFO reports, but had never heard of a crashed saucer. The alleged incident could not possibly have occurred in the spring of 1941, as Ms. Mann recalled, because Rev. Huffman and his family did not move to Cape Girardeau until November of 1941, according to an article which Westwood found in the newspaper's archives. (Although Westwood says he sent a copy of this article to Ryan Wood on June 24, 1999, two years later in Wood's MUFON talk he still claimed the crashed UFO incident had occurred in the spring of 1941 and reported searching for police and fire department records for that period.)

Useful insight to Ms. Mann's other interests beyond UFOs can be gained from her business card which she gave Westwood when he interviewed her in Texas, where she now resides. Mann's card reads: *"Spiritual Counselor, Meditation Instructor, Past Life Regression."*

Woods Post Modified Version Of Hillenkoetter's Candid Letter

On Sept. 19, 1963, Vice Adm. R.H. Hillenkoetter (Ret.), who (allegedly) headed Majestic-12 for several years after it (allegedly) was created by President Truman, wrote the following letter to Dr. Donald H. Menzel, a Harvard University astronomer who was then a leading UFO skeptic.

"Please accept my deepest apologies for the delay in answering your letter of 2 August, as well as the acknowledgment of the receipt of your [new] book ["The World of Flying Saucers"]. *I was away for some time this summer and the Navy Department forwarded you letter to my home where I was a long time receiving it. Thank you very much for your book. To my mind, it was very well done and I enjoyed it and found it of great interest. I should say that you have effectively put to rest all surmises about flying saucers being from 'outer space.' You have done a thorough and praiseworthy job.* (Emphasis added.)

"As I told you at the last 'Ends of the Earth' (conference), *I* resigned *from NICAP about 20 months ago feeling that it had degenerated from an organization honestly trying to find out something definite about unknowns into a body bickering about personalities. The Air Force, too, could have helped by not being so secretive. At all events, you have done a fine job and I am very grateful you were so kind as to send me your book. Again with thanks and the hope of seeing you at the next 'Ends of the Earth'* (conference), *please believe me. Most cordially"*

Hillenkoetter's letter was typed on stationery of the Hegeman-Harris Co., a New York City construction

company where he was then a vice president. But the version that the Woods posted on their web-site, obtained from their principal source–Timothy Cooper–differed significantly from the version made public several decades earlier by Menzel to substantiate his statements about Hillenkoetter's current views of UFOs and why he had resigned from NICAP. The Woods claim that *"Hillenkoetter's congratulating Menzel on what a great job he did [was] disinformation, psychological warfare, and obfuscation of the UFO reality."* (It is claimed that Menzel was an original member of MJ-12 and that his public UFO skepticism was part of the government's coverup.)

THE COOPER/WOODS' COPY OF THE HILLENKOETTER LETTER HAS CURIOUS ADDITIONS FROM THE ORIGINAL RELEASED BY MENZEL IN THE MID-1960s. For example, it is classified "Top Secret" using hand-printed letters which include "CIA COPY." Further, although the Hillenkoetter letter is dated Sept.19,1963, and shows no copies were sent to anyone other than to Menzel, the version posted on the Woods' web-site has the HAND-WRITTEN NOTATION "10/27/65 Copies to L. Boyd, W. Wellman, Adm. Hillenkoetter." SEEMINGLY, TWO YEARS AFTER THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN, THE CIA DECIDED TO CLASSIFY IT BUT COULD NOT FIND A "TOP SECRET" RUBBER STAMP. AND IT SENT A COPY OF THE CLASSIFIED LETTER TO MENZEL'S CO-AUTHOR (BOYD) BUT NOT TO MENZEL.

"UFO Lawyer" Gersten Creates New Group To Focus On Paranormal

Peter Gersten, who achieved fame in UFO circles in the late 1960s by filing a Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA) request on behalf of a small group called Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS)--to get the CIA to release its UFO-related material and who "took control" of CAUS nearly four years ago with a very ambitious agenda [SUN #51/May 1998]--has created a new operation, called the "DOROTHY NETWORK." According to Gersten, *"The Dorothy Network is a group of people who believe that our reality is more than it appears to be. That what is seen on the planetary stage is merely a diversion and that to learn the truth we need to look 'behind the curtain' where the unusual, the strange, the paranormal, and the 'out of the ordinary' dwell. Those of us familiar with the evidence of artificial artifacts in our solar system as well as the ancient structures on this planet, realize that there existed a superior technology somewhere in the past.* [Gersten apparently believes the wild claims made by Erich von Daniken in his book "Chariots of the Gods."] *Those of us familiar with UFOs, 'alien abductions,' crop circles and cattle mutilations are aware that an advanced technology is also present in our reality right now. But for some reason it remains hidden 'behind the curtain' waiting for its 'cue' to appear. Something is occurring in our reality and it is not simply another planetary war. I feel that it is necessary to monitor the situation. We need to be alert for, and aware of, anything that doesn't 'feel' right to any of our senses."* (Emphasis added.)

In late 1997, just prior to taking over CAUS, Gersten told SUN that his primary interest had shifted to astrology–until he met (the late) Lt. Col. Philip J. Corso (USA, Ret.) in mid-1997 and read Corso's book. (The book, which claims Corso had seen ET bodies recovered near Roswell, NM, is riddled with factual errors, a few of which were cited in SUN #49/Jan. 1998.) Upon taking over CAUS, Gersten said he would file an FOIA action to recover some of the Army's crashed-saucer files cited in Corso's book but never did so. Another ambitious project announced by Gersten (but never implemented) was to fund a rocket to the Moon to photograph the ET structures which **Richard (Face On Mars) Hoagland claimed were visible on some photos taken by Apollo astronauts.**

Gersten has discovered that his strongest supporters, like himself, believe in many paranormal phenomena such as "psychics," those who claim to be able to speak with the dead, and "numerology." For example, a Gersten letter posted on his web-site describes the "coincidence of the number 11" in the recent terrorist tragedies. Gersten notes that the date of the tragedies is 9/11 and that 9+1+1 = 11. Also that:

- **Sept. 11 is the 254th day of the year and that 2+5+4 =11.**
- **After Sept. 11, there are 111 days left in the year.**
- **"New York City" contains 11 letters, as does "Afghanistan" and "The Pentagon."**
- **American Airline Flt. #11 was the first to hit the World Trade Center towers and it had 92 passengers aboard (9+2 =11).**
- **There were 65 passengers aboard American Airlines Flt. #77 (6 + 5 = 11).**
- **The phone number of the World Trade Center in Lausanne, Switzerland, is 317-1111 (3+1+7 = 11).**

Gersten says that ***"on Nov 11, 1998, I had a profound experience after frequently seeing the numbers 11:11 during the preceding 30 days....During my experiences with the 11:11 in 1998, I learned that the numbers represent some kind of 'opening.' I also heard references to an 'inter-dimensional portal" I think it is only fitting that Dorothy's [Gersten's new group] first assignment is to take a serious look at this recurring phenomena."***

SUN Comment: If Gersten would shorten his first name to "Pete" its four letters plus the seven letters in "Gersten" total 11.

NIDS's UFO Investigation Transcripts Provide Valuable Insights

The National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS), created by wealthy Las Vegas businessman Robert Bigelow because of his long-time interest in UFOs, is providing useful new insights by publishing verbatim transcripts of its interviews with "UFO witnesses" on its web-site. These reveal conflicting recollections–sometimes prompted by what a witness has read or heard on radio/TV talk shows. This is evident from the NIDS transcripts for the multiple UFOs sighted shortly after midnight on July 15 in the vicinity of Carteret NJ–not far from Newark International Airport. (The NIDS transcripts protect the identity of the witnesses. They are identified only by chronological number, e.g., Eye-Witness #3.)

Although investigators have interviewed approximately 20 witnesses, NIDS has not yet rendered its verdict as to whether the July 15 incident involved 15–20 small, individual lights—which might have been flares, each supported by a small parachute--or a giant craft which carried numerous lights.

Of those interviewed by NIDS, SUN believes the most impressive was EW-3. Highlights of the NIDS report follow: ***"EW-3 had a 25-year career in a military special forces and does not want interview transcript published because of confidentiality concerns. The following are highlights of Eyewitness #3's testimony: At 00:35 on Sunday July 15, 2001, EW-3 was outside looking at the night sky when he saw 15-20 orange-reddish lights in a loose U-formation*** [slowly] ***coming from the Northwest....Wind was light, NW to SE.*** (Emphasis added.)

"He owns a pair of ITT second-generation night-vision/infrared binoculars with a rangefinder which he trained on the objects. The rangefinder locked in on solid objects at approximately 1,800 feet distance. (It has been some time since EW-3 calibrated his rangefinder.) Through infrared mode, EW-3 observed a uniform heat source as they moved slowly overhead....Through the night-vision binoculars, EW-3 observed the objects 'flare out' and he saw small puffs of smoke as each object flared out. The objects reminded EW-3 of anti-surface-to-air missile (SAM) flares but he had never seen anti-SAM flares remain airborne and maintain altitude for so long. He did not see any evidence of parachutes or any other structure through the night-vision binoculars. EW-3 guessed that the objects were either 'area flares' or 'some kind of pyrotechnic display' that had perhaps malfunctioned." (Emphasis added.) NIDS said it contacted the Earle Naval Weapons station, roughly *"56 driving miles distant from the sighting location* [but it] *garnered the unhelpful reply that any information on training exercises from Earle would have to be obtained through the Freedom Of Information Act."* **(Seemingly, NIDS opted not to explore this possible explanation via FOIA.)**

But another eyewitness, EW-10, reported seeing a single, giant boomerang-shaped UFO. He said ***"it was a ship. I know about UFOs. I got into it last year and I've been studying about them."*** **According to EW-10,** ***"the UFO wasn't noticeable. The sky was real black and it*** **[UFO]** ***blended in with the sky....I've been studying for a year into this stuff....I started watching all the old*** **[TV]** ***specials. I started renting tapes from the video stores....I listen to the Art Bell show."*** (Emphasis added.)[5]

Interesting Data From Newark International Airport (EWR) Radar

Although NIDS (seemingly) did not file an FOIA request to determine if the UFOs might have been flares dropped by Naval aircraft, it states that it did file an FOIA request on July 21 to obtain tapes of the Newark International Airport surveillance radar (ASR) data for the night of July 14-15 and tapes of voice communications of Newark tower controllers for the same period. According to its web-site report, *"Prior to receiving the FOIA data, NIDS received a preliminary analytical report that details Unidentified Flying Objects without [radar] transponders detected on the radar in the airspace around Newark International Airport on the night of July 14-15, 2001. The report is summarized in table form below....By far the most noteworthy aspect of this communication is the large number of objects detected that DO NOT have transponders."* (Emphasis added.)

(SUN Comment: Aircraft that fly in the vicinity of major airports are obliged to carry a radar transponder that transmits the aircraft's barometric altitude and identification. This provides traffic controllers with their primary means of determining each aircraft's location. This data is NOT provided by basic radar that only bounces microwave energy off aircraft every four seconds. A transponder's coded reply not only provides controllers with three-dimensional data on aircraft position and identity but avoids the possibility of spurious (raw) radar blips due to temperature inversions which occur during the warm, humid summer months.)

(The ability of NIDS to obtain detailed raw-radar data for the Newark airport radar from a source it does not identify prompts SUN to suspect that its source was the EW-3 witness who may be a traffic controller at the Newark airport or otherwise employed there by the Federal Aviation Administration. This would explain EW-3's rapid access to night-vision binoculars with a laser rangefinder and his knowledge of the precise time of UFO observation–00:35 EDT.)

NIDS shows several "raw-radar targets" near Newark airport during the time-period of EW-3's reported UFO sighting:

•	00:33 to 00:34:	SW-bound	Speed 50-70 knot. Blip meanders
•	00:35:05 to 00:35:26	NE-bound	Accelerates from 60 to 200 kt., then drops off (disappears)
•	00:38:55 to 00:40	SE-bound	Only exists for several radar antenna scans

NIDS reports that *"a request to randomly check for aircraft without transponders* [i.e., UFOs] *at the same time on a DIFFERENT night produced the result that there were NO objects without transponders in the air around Newark International Airport on that second, randomly chosen, night. This 'control' study lends support to the notion that such a large profusion of objects without transponders in the air around one of the nation's busiest international airports is unusual. Secondly, the fact that multiple objects without transponders were in the same airspace while over 100 eyewitnesses on the ground were watching several UFOs over Carteret may be of interest."*

If NIDS investigators were more familiar with radar's vulnerability to spurious targets and had studied ALL their Newark radar data for the night of July 14-15, they could have discovered a prosaic explanation for many of the blips reported. Of the 90 raw-radar (non-transponder) blips reported during the two hours prior to the UFO sighting and nearly 30 minutes that followed, MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE RAW-RADAR BLIPS DISAPPEARED AFTER SEVERAL ANTENNA SCANS OR BEHAVED ERRATICALLY. THIS SUGGESTS THEY WERE ANOMALOUS BLIPS—POSSIBLY CAUSED BY TEMPERATURE INVERSION CONDITIONS. (A lengthy investigation by FAA scientists of the July 1952 UFO blips observed on Washington DC area radars found they were due to temperature inversion conditions.)

Journalist's Claims Of Contact With ETs And Angel Is "Lot Of Krapf"

Phillip H. Krapf has authored the wildest UFO tale of all time, which includes his (alleged) meeting with an angel and trips to a giant ET craft hiding behind the moon. Some of Krapf's claims are endorsed by Silicon Valley's Joe Firmage in the lengthy introduction he wrote for Krapf's second book, "The Challenge Of Contact: A Mainstream Journalist's Report on Interplanetary Diplomacy." (Krapf served as a newsroom

copy-editor for the Los Angeles Times for 25 years until 1993, when he accepted a "buy-out" offer and retired at age 58.) In early 1998 his first book was published, titled "The Contact Has Begun: The True Story of a Journalist's Encounter with Alien Beings." It was a 155-page paperback, published by Hay House Inc., Carlsbad, CA, whose other books include "Astrology Really Works." Krapf's second book was published in hard-cover three years later by Origin Press, Novato, CA. (Another of its recent books is titled "Radical Therapy: Surrender to Love and Heal Yourself in Seven Sessions--Not in Seven Years.")

According to Krapf, prior to the night of June 10-11, 1997, when he (allegedly) was "beamed up" from his Southern California bedroom to a giant UFO on the back side of the moon, he had been a UFO skeptic and a religious agnostic. Krapf reportedly found himself in a giant room with hundreds of other Earthlings on tables, each with a team of 3-5 ET examiners. One of the three ETs at Krapf's table introduced himself in English: *"I am Gwantelmipsa, but you will call me Gus"*–pointing to a name tag on his robe which read "Gus." Krapf said Gus told him that he was not there for examination and to accompany him to another room. Once there Gus spoke: *"Yes, you are on a spaceship. Yes, the stories of so-called alien abductions that have been circulating among your people for 50 years or so are true for the most part. Yes, we are from another world. The name of our planet would translate into English as VERDANT. We come in peace, and no harm will come to you..."* (Because there are many verbatim quotations in both of Krapf's books, he offered the following explanation: *"I did not take notes during my three days on the ship....The Verdants bestowed on me that special gift that allows me to quote conversations and recall the events that transpired with great accuracy."*)

According to Krapf, the Verdants' native planet is located about 14 million light-years from Earth, but they have developed technology that enables them to travel at a million times the speed of light. (This means that a round-trip to Earth takes only 28 Earth-years.) Their first efforts at space travel occurred about 229 million years ago. Since that time, they (allegedly) have "colonized" 264,000 previously uninhabited planets–moving some of their orbits closer or farther away from their "Suns" to provide more comfortable ambient temperatures, according to Krapf. In addition to their remarkable advances in technology, they have been able to extend their life span to nearly 20,000 years. (Fortuitously, to avoid over-populating their planet, the female Verdants are able to bear only one child during their lengthy lifetime. They've also limited their planet's population to 500 trillion via their colonization of other planets.)

Krapf (Allegedly) Chosen To Play Key Role For ET-Earth Summit

Krapf said he learned that the Verdants had been visiting Earth for approximately 1,000 years. *"Initially, they simply observed and kept records. Every dialect and language has been mastered....Naturally, what with tens of thousands of* ("abductee") *personal examinations, they have a complete and thorough understanding of the physiology of the human body."* According to Krapf, *"the period of clinical study* (of Earthlings) *was coming to a close and no further abductions would occur. I was told that the group of people I saw in the examination room were the last ones who would ever experience that phenomena* [sic]." Gus explained, *"The time has come for our two peoples to meet formally. You will play a part in helping to bring that about."*

According to Krapf, *"Two classes of people had been selected to prepare for the planned Verdant-Earth summit. The first group consisted of several hundred of some of the world's most prominent citizens....from every imaginable field. They had one thing in common...the power to influence large segments of the population....toward the ultimate goal of preparing the masses of people on Earth for the inevitable contact. The Verdants bestowed upon each the formal title of 'Ambassador.' The second group consisted of an equal number of relatively unknown people, such as myself, who were being prepared to perform secondary, but nevertheless significant, supporting tasks....They were given the official title 'Deputy Envoy'."* As explained to Krapf, *"When the Ambassadors begin revealing the truth about what has been going on in your skies for hundreds of years, it will be necessary for the people of Earth to have access to a central source of information." THIS WOULD BE KRAPF'S FUNCTION.* And he was told *"we need a formal white paper that will give the people a look...at what to expect."* This (reportedly) was what prompted him to write his first book. (Emphasis added.)

In its closing pages, Krapf predicted: ***"Sometime in the first few months of 2002, the first public announcement by an Ambassador will be made confirming the accuracy of the schedule of events in this book."***

Krapf Returns To ET Craft And Learns Of Summit Problems

After a brief summary of Krapf's first book in his second book, he reports his (alleged) meeting on April 4, 1999 (Easter Sunday) with an angel named Paul in a park in Pinole, CA. Krapf described the angel as follows: *"He was dressed casually in jeans, with a plaid shirt under his windbreaker and white athletic shoes."* (SUN Comment: On Easter Sunday!!!) Krapf added: *"He looked to be in his forties, with a chiseled face and a full head of brown hair....his eyes were an undistinguished, everyday blue."* Krapf (reportedly) was told by Paul that they would soon be joined by another: *"He's an Ambassador and he has information for you."* After "Chip" arrived, according to Krapf, *"over the next several hours, our dialog touched on a host of subjects, including reincarnation, telepathy, crop circles, and cattle mutilations....During the afternoon I also learned that some opponents of the [Verdant-Earth] contact, both foreign and domestic, have compiled enemies lists containing the names of many prominent UFO activists....Ironically, some of those who oppose the contact actually belong to UFO groups..."* Chip (reportedly) told Krapf *"that some government leaders had already been briefed by Ambassadors and that one or more of them may secretly oppose the contact* [by]*... creating international strife, opening old wounds, instigating economic and social turmoil..."* [SUN Comment: Does this explain the terrorist tragedy of Sept. 11 and the current economic recession??]

On Jan. 15, 2000, Krapf said he was again beamed up to the giant ET craft where he learned that *"the Verdants had become concerned with what they were seeing in the past year or so....After the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the end of the extremely dangerous Cold War....the Verdants...became convinced that for the first time in humankind's history, the possibility of world peace was at long last at hand* [and] *that we would be ripe for induction into the Intergalactic Federation of Sovereign Planets (IFSP)."* But events that had occurred in the last couple years had raised Verdant doubts, as detailed to Krapf: *" A global pandemic of violence against women. Corporate greed ravishing the world's resources for their own selfish ends with no regard for the disastrous ecological and environmental legacy they leave future generations. The airwaves filled with rancor...consumed by hate....Skewed values and a loss of moral direction. Apathy and unconcern for the less fortunate. Rampant child abuse, the breakdown of family, cruelty of all sorts. Unconscionable terrorist killings and maiming of innocent victims."* (Emphasis added.)

Krapf's not-surprising response: *"All of that has been a part of our civilization for as long as I can remember and my experience with humans doesn't go back a millenium* [as with the Verdants]. *Certainly this couldn't come as any surprise to them, so why the sudden concern?"* (Emphasis added.)

BUT AS A RESULT, THE VERDANT "HIGH COMMAND" WOULD DECIDE WHEN THE SUMMIT SHOULD BE HELD. KRAPF WOULD SERVE AS THEIR CHIEF EARTHLING SPOKESPERSON.

Firmage Believes Krapf's Books Provide More Evidence Of ET Visits

Silicon Valley's Joe Firmage offers a strong endorsement in an introductory chapter which he wrote on May 1, 2001, for Krapf's most recent book: *"Is 'The Challenge of Contact' simply an interesting work of fiction posing as fact? I've talked with Phillip twice on the phone....His first book, 'The Contact Has Begun,' deserved a call to get at least a gut check on the man. He seemed then–as now–like a gentle, honest person....Phillip Krapf doesn't need to be lying....he could simply be self-deceived which, to his credit, he does not rule out....But here's what I believe to be true. I believe that the simplest explanations for a small percentage of the countless unidentified objects witnessed over many thousands of years of recorded human history involve spacecraft of extraterrestrial origin....that a very small, very well-concealed cluster of public-private organizations are well aware of the reality of visitation from other worlds. I further believe that physical materials from extraterrestrial craft have been recovered and studied....All of my beliefs are, of course, subject to correction by evidence....But the evidence seems to be piling up in favor of the views I'm advancing."* (Emphasis added.)

Firmage wrote that he *"was drawn to* [Krapf's books]*...because of several factors, the combination of which I'd not seen very often in the course of my* [UFO] *reading. First...is the correlation between his report of a future city to be called 'Genesis'* [to be built in the Southwest U.S.] *that will be humanity's first gateway to the*

stars, with spiritual traditions that speak of a city one day coming into existence as the point of contact between Heaven and Earth....As Phillip describes 'Genesis,' it will be the place where humans and extraterrestrial beings first meet in large numbers, and through which our first voyages to other worlds will commence." [Firmage's efforts to link UFOs and Biblical predictions are attributed to his early training in the Mormon church.]

Short Shrift:

* Space Laser Program Suffers Congressional Cut: Dr. Steven Greer, who seeks to ban "space weapons" because of concern that they would be used against UFOs [SUN #69/Fall 2001], can put that worry aside for at least a few years. The final 2002 defense appropriations bill passed by Congress slashed the Administration's request for its space laser development effort by more than 70% to $50 million. The program's stated objective was to launch an experimental laser into space in 2012 to demonstrate its ability to destroy a ballistic missile shortly after its launch. With the large cut in funding, the 2012 demonstration undoubtedly will be delayed.

* UFOlogist Bill Cooper Shot To Death: Milton William Cooper, who achieved a modicum of fame in UFO circles in the late 1980s and early 1990s with the claim that he had learned of the government's UFO coverup while serving as a Navy intelligence briefer, recently was shot to death by Apache County (AZ) deputy sheriffs trying to serve him with an arrest warrant. Cooper was killed after he reportedly shot one of the deputies in the head twice. In 1991, Cooper authored a book titled "Behold A Pale Horse" which claimed that as a Navy briefer he had seen a document instructing military base commanders to contact SUN's editor if they ever had difficulty in coming up with a prosaic explanation for a UFO incident. [In our 35 years in the UFO field we have NEVER been contacted for such advice.] According to a friend, Cooper suffered from alcoholism and was a gun collector.

* MUFON Membership Suffers Sharp Decline: The Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), whose membership exceeded 5,000 a decade ago, has experienced a sharp decline to around 3,000. One reason for the decline is the number of free Internet reports, such as "Filer's Files."

* Mercury Astronaut Denies Pro-UFO Claim: Astronaut Scott Carpenter has flatly denied ever making a statement that "At no time when our astronauts were in space were they alone. There was a constant surveillance by UFOs." In response to a query by James Oberg, Carpenter sent an e-mail message on Dec. 19 which read: *"The quote is absolute hogwash and a blatant lie. I never thought it, never said it, and it never happened."*

* NIDS Debunks Key Claim By Lt. Col. Corso: The web-site of the National Institute for Discovery Science (NIDS) effectively debunks the claim by (the late) Philip J. Corso in his book "The Day After Roswell" that the integrated circuit is based on advanced semiconductor technology recovered from a crashed UFO in 1947 near Roswell, NM. The article is authored by Marcel Kuijsten, who serves as Webmaster for the NIDS web-site. Corso claimed he played a key role in 1961 in reverse engineering the Roswell debris. Kuijsten's piece cites numerous articles dating back to 1939 by the recognized Bell Laboratories scientists who developed early semiconductor technology. He also cites patents filed in 1926 for a field-effect-type transistor.

* FUFOR Media Survey Indicates Scant UFO Interest: The Fund for UFO Research (FUFOR) sends nearly 700 copies of its "The UFO Report" to major news media around the globe. Prior to the Sept. 11 terrorist tragedy and war in Afghanistan, FUFOR included a return-postage-paid questionnaire asking what recipients would like to have FUFOR include in its report. Of the nearly 700 questionnirs sent, only 10 were returned.

NOTE: Opinions expressed in SUN are those of its editor (unless otherwise noted) and do NOT necessarily represent the views of any organization with which he is affiliated. WE DEEPLY THANK DR. GARY POSNER FOR HIS HELP IN PROOFREADING.

SKEPTICS UFO NEWSLETTER (SUN) IS NOW PUBLISHED QUARTERLY (four issues per year).
Annual subscription rate is $10/year for U.S./Canada. Overseas rate (airmail) is $15/year.
Please make checks or money order payable to PHILIP J. KLASS.